

Approximately 15 to 16 miles further north, there is a flourishing colony of this species, discovered, and well described, by Dr. N. L. Birkett (in *Ent. Rec.*, 92: 85). Could it be a stray from this brood? This seems unlikely, in view of the fact, that the Milnthorpe specimen laid numerous infertile eggs, loosely, in the large container, in which fresh nettles and dock leaves were placed. The probable explanation being that it arrived as a cocoon among the imported flowers. Was it something akin to this, that began the N. Cumbrian colony? — J. BRIGGS, 5 Deepdale Close, Slackhead, Beetham, Milnthorpe, Cumbria LA7 7AY.

CURATE'S OVUM. — Lt.-Col. Carter (*antea*: 285) is right, and he may like to know that he was anticipated in his objection by no less an authority than the late P. B. M. Allan. I regret I cannot cite chapter and verse, but Mr. Allan drew attention to the matter in a note in this Journal. He made the further point that the use of *ovum*, though indeed Latin for egg, is nevertheless in this sense a misuse because in biology it has taken on a special meaning: i.e. a female gamete or sex-cell which after fertilization gives rise to a new individual. I agree that a desire for consistency with *larva*, *pupa*, and *imago* has probably dictated the survival of *ovum* as an entomological term — survival, because early scientific works were written in Latin. The word *oviposition*, on the other hand, is scarcely open to the same criticism, being a straight coinage like most technical terms; though, it must be owned, the plain English *egg-laying* is generally to be preferred. — A. A. ALLEN.

THE SLOE PUG: CHLOROCLYSTIS CHLOERATA (MABILLE), AND THE MARSH PUG: EUPITHECIA PYGMAEATA (HUEBNER) IN BEDFORDSHIRE. — In May 1984 I successfully reared a dozen *C. chloerata* from larvae beaten from various south and mid-Bedfordshire locations. On 9th June 1984 I observed an adult specimen of *E. pygmaeata* feeding at Common Vetch and subsequently saw several more in a rough field near Clophill, Bedfordshire. Both the above are apparently additions to the county list. — K. F. WEBB, 2 Kingsdown Avenue, Luton, Bedfordshire.

A SECOND RECORD OF THE LEAST CARPET: IDAEA VULPINARIA H.S. IN HAMPSHIRE. — On the night of 21st - 22nd July, 1984 a single *Idaea vulpinaria* was caught in the Rothamsted light trap at Alice Holt Lodge, Hampshire. This appears to be only the second record of this species in Hampshire and the first from vice county 12. The previous Hampshire record in 1977 was at Ashurst in V.C.11 (Craik, 1978, *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* 90:7). — T. G. WINTER, Forestry Commission, Alice Holt Lodge, Farnham, Surrey.

DROMIUS ANGUSTUS BRULLÉ (COL.: CARABIDAE) UNDER PLANE BARK IN WINTER. — To-day (2.i.85), on my way to the local shops, the fancy took me to lift a piece of loose bark on the trunk of a roadside plane tree, when to my great surprise two examples of *Dromius angustus* Brullé were exposed in a dormant